

**Minutes of a Meeting of Fringford Parish Council, held on
Monday 17th September 2018, in the Chinnery Room of Fringford Village Hall at
7.45 pm**

Present: Cllrs Adrian Thwaites (Chairman), John Fargin, Les Harris, John Reader, and David McCullagh.

In attendance:

Apologies: Cllrs Jan Maciejewski and Mick Cowland, Cllr Ian Corkin (CDC and OCC)

Also in Attendance : 15 members of the public

57. Apologies

Noted as above.

58. Requests for Dispensations and Declarations of Interest, gifts and hospitality

There were no requests for dispensations or declarations of pecuniary interest.

Public Participation

A resident attended to draw the Parish Council's attention to the speed and noise of traffic travelling passing over the Green beyond School House and into Rectory Lane. It was also noted that certain residents are speeding out of Rectory lane. The Clerk agreed to put an item on Facebook and the Website asking drivers to slow down while driving around the village, and be aware that there could be pedestrians in the road. She also suggested that the rural police are asked to make visible visits to the Village.

It was noted that the speed of traffic was also an issue along Main Street, and it was agreed that an item requesting drivers in the village drive with more consideration could be added to any news drop that the Council will be making in the next few months.

Other residents attended the meeting to listen to discussions about the Planning appeal at Fringford Cottage.

Cllr Fargin explained that planning appeal process. He reminded residents that Cherwell District Council would send all the documents received when considering the initial planning application (including letters of objection) to the Planning Inspectorate, and these would be read by the Planning Inspector. If residents wished to raise new matters they could write directly to the Planning Inspectorate. Any correspondence needed to be submitted by 10th October, and

the Planning Inspector will then read all the documents before him, make a site visit, and then make his decision, based on the written evidence submitted. One resident advised the meeting that the appeal, as submitted, had added a 2M high fence alongside the access to the proposed development, which will have an effect on the visual amenity of Main Street.

In view of the public interest the Parish Council then agreed to consider its response to the appeal.

Residential development of up to 10 dwellings

Fringford Cottage Main Street Fringford Bicester OX27 8DP

Ref. No: 18/00249/OUT

The Council agreed that it did wish to respond to the appeal, and considered that the response to be submitted should be based around the following points from a working document prepared by councillors, prior to the meeting:

- HELAA - referred to in appeal but merely a simplistic desktop exercise identifying 1000s of possible sites at a high level. No detailed planning issues taken into account.
- Sustainability - Whilst Fringford is in the A category (it was previously in a Category B) it is ranked 20th out of 23 in terms of size. Exercise was completed before local regular bus service was withdrawn.
- Sustainability - The regular bus service has been withdrawn since the original application and is currently on a replacement trial basis running on Thursdays over a 20 week period that began on 28th June 2018. This bus runs mid morning from Fringford (departs 10:44) to Bicester (arrives 11:05) and departs Bicester at 13:00 to arrive back in Fringford at 13:21. This makes no provision to assist in commuting or allowing for travel to seek or take up gainful employment. At the end of the 20 week period the project will be under review as to the feasibility and sustainability of extending the concept. Only three or four villagers use the service. 99% of villager journeys are made by car. There are no shops, doctors, dentists, or significant employment opportunities within miles. One trial bus route per week does not make a village sustainable.
- Sustainability - there are no cycle paths, footpaths, bridleways or other dedicated forms of travel from Fringford, apart from the car, to any of the adjoining villages or towns.
- Sustainability - There are many more sustainable sites available for development in line with Cherwell policy on sustainability.


- Sustainability – The requirement for village housing has largely been already been met with over 75% of Cherwell’s target for rural housing in place. As the plan has a number of years still to run then natural uptake will more than meet the requirements to achieve the desired numbers.
- Local Plan - Cherwell are way on the road to achieving housing targets as outlined in recent Appeal refusal at Kirtlington Appeal Ref: APP/C3105/W/17/3178077 Land south of Mill Lane, Kirtlington, dated 15th March 2018.
- Local Plan - Seeks to protect rural environments. Even this appeal highlights that there are 'swathes of countryside' immediately adjacent to proposed site. Proposal involves building outside of the village envelope.
- Access - the proposed access road is within 0.5 meters of the 160 year old Bakery Cottage property and would have a seriously detrimental impact on occupants. Noise and vibration would be significant. No footway is shown on plan.
- Access - the proposed entrance is immediately opposite the Church Lane and Close exit onto Main Street and with a 4th addition directly opposite will create a large intersection on a very rural road. Cars exiting during the night will provide intense light pollution into One Step Cottage which is adjacent to the proposed entrance
- Access - Main Street is not a 2 lane road with a severe “choke-point” running between the school entrance down to Hall Farm, where the road narrows only permitting for alternate single car passage. This is further exacerbated at school drop off and collection times when parent parking further restricts the view and width of this road section.
- Visual amenity - Proposal with its suburban style, its access road, the part demolition of an ancient stone wall and the proposed 2 meters high fence placed right next to Bakery Cottage will have seriously detrimental impact on the rural village street scene.
- Drainage - Not enough detail defined to provide assurance that proposed system can be located within site. There seems to be a dependence on a foul water pump along with any surface water attenuation or infiltration systems such as a pond. As both of these are major installations there is no provision on the plans as to where they will or can be located due to space constraints. As parts of the site are vulnerable to a medium risk of flooding this further

restricts the location of either of these requirements. In particular the flooding risk to a foul water pump could result in ground contamination.

- Drainage - Village is notorious for power cuts, with 2 major ones occurring in 2018, one for over 9 hours and the most recent for over 5 hours (night of 14/15th September). A prolonged power cut would be catastrophic due to the lie of the land and history of flooding.
- Application documents - there seem to be inconsistencies across the numerous documents submitted such as the reference to both retaining the existing house and demolishing it. The Noise Assessment Report has only been partially loaded with only odd pages showing on the CDC web portal.

The Parish Council agreed to delegate to the Clerk authority to respond to the appeal along the lines set out above, after consultation with Cllrs Thwaites, Fargin and McCullagh, and on the condition that the response, once sent, is also circulated to all parish Councillors.

59. Planning Applications

[Single storey rear extension, conversion of existing garage, erection of new outbuilding to create double garage / garden store](#) 

Folly Fields Main Street Fringford Bicester OX27 8DP

Ref. No: 18/00912/F as amended

No objection

60. Reports from District and County Councillors and Police

The written report from Cllr Corkin was read to the meeting.

61. To receive a report from Cllr Wood (CDC) regarding any newly registered sites within the village.

None.

62. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th August 2018.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

63. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Village benches

The Parish Council agreed that the broken bench outside the school should be removed, and the bench currently by the playground should be fixed in its present location, looking over Main Street, as it is much used by parents delivering and collecting children from school.

64. Update on progress from the Minutes.

The Clerk reported that she was still trying to make contact with the Diocese to start discussions about an extension of village parking.

65. Finance

- a. **To receive the monthly financial report and bank reconciliation – which is attached to these Minutes and shown as “Appendix A”**
- b. **To consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following invoices for payment:

Cheque no:	Payee and reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Amount
400323	Green scythe	Grass		£343.20
400324	Royal British legion	Wreathe	S 137	£100.00
400325	Tom Rawlinson	Playground	53(b)/2018	£105.62
400326	Bullfinch gas Equipment	beacon	53(e)/2018	£432.00
400327	Tree Solutions	Tree/hedges	56 /2018	£300.00
400328	Tree Solutions	Tree/hedges	56 /2018	£210.00
400329	Anne Davies Clerk salary	salaries	Cl salary	£185.38
400330	HMRC	Clerk Tax	Cl ts and cs	£43.50
400331	cancelled			
400332	cancelled			
400333	D McCullagh	playground		£52.88

66. Parish Matters – to discuss where necessary

- a. To receive an update from any of the Village Groups

The **History group, together with the Village Hall** are looking at a Commemorative event to mark the centenary of the end of WW1 on 11th November. The Village will join other villages across the country in lighting a beacon on the Village Green and there will be an informal Remembrance event. At the same time the Village Hall is planning a cheese and wine social event in the Village Hall. It is likely that the event will raise money for military charities.

The Council has also been looking into a suitable location to plant the commemorative tree. Suitable locations are outside the Village Hall, or in front of the school. The final location of the tree will need to be agreed with the Baroness Von Maltzahn, and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with her to enable this to be discussed.

The History Group has also been carrying out a project to sift through old Parish documents. They have uncovered minutes form the first Parish

Council meeting , a collection of maps and plans showing how the village has developed/changed over the years, and a surprising consistency in issues of concern to the village – e.g. parking on the Village Green. It is proposed that items of interest will be displayed in the Village Hall.

Interesting documents are to be scanned electronically and made available on the website. However many of the documents are foolscap rather than A4 in size, and do not fit current scanners. The Parish Council therefore authorised the purchase of an A3 scanner for use by the History Group in this work.

b. Playground

The Parish Council congratulated Cllr McCullagh and a resident on bringing the playground refurbishment to a successful conclusion. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident expressing the parish Council's grateful thanks for his work in submitting and reclaiming the grants from WREN and Tesco.

c. Village Green

Some potholes by the Village Green have been marked for repair, but Rectory Lane and the road outside the Church still require attention.

d. Resilience Grant

The Parish Council noted the items included in the Resilience grant request. It was agreed that the Council should request additional support via Cllr Corkin's Community Fund, and CDC's Community Funding Officer.

The Parish Council agreed expenditure of up to £250 to commission expert advice on a generator switching system suitable for use at the Village Hall.

e. Cricket Club

The Parish Council noted that a report from the Cricket Club should be available for the next meeting.

67. Correspondence Received – to note correspondence received not otherwise on the agenda where decisions are not required

The Clerk reported an email to the Chairman expressing concerns about her interpretation of data protection legislation when a letter to the Parish Council had not been made available on request. She confirmed that she now had the writer's authority to release the letter in question (relating to the Folly Fields Planning application).

This letter has also raised concerns about the Councillors' use of personal email accounts. The Clerk explained that this could be an inconvenience to Councillors as they would need to trawl through personal emails, should the Parish receive an FOI request. The Clerk has taken advice from OALC, and a parish gmail account should suffice. It was agreed that this item should be added to the agenda for consideration in October.

The Clerk also read a letter from the Governors of Fringford School confirming their wish to be involved in any discussions about increased car parking at the Village Hall.

68. Reports from meetings

The Clerk will circulate the notes from the E/W Rail liaison meeting as soon as they are finalised.

69. Items for information or next Agenda only

None.

Agenda Items

The Clerk requested that all items for the next agenda should be submitted by 7th October 2018.

70. Date of next meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the date of Monday 15th October 2018 at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed

Dated

Fringford Parish Council			Monthly Financial Report	
			Parish Council Meeting	17 September 2018
Payments processed since last meeting				£23,437.67
20-Aug-18	Came and co	400309		£86.17
20-Aug-18	Green scythe	400310		£343.20
20-Aug-18	KM Groundworks	400311		£1,260.00
20-Aug-18	cancelled	400312		
20-Aug-18	Trentwood fencing	400313		£3,900.00
20-Aug-18	L Mustill	400314		£26.74
20-Aug-18	D McCullagh	400315		£10.20
20-Aug-18	D McCullagh	400316		£8.51
20-Aug-18	Navitas	400317		£71.99
20-Aug-18	Wicksteed	400319		£17,214.48
20-Aug-18	GP and MP Allen	400320		£288.00
+ 2 more				£228.38
Receipts processed since previous report				£28,173.28
21-Aug-18	HMRC			£3,786.28
24-Aug-18	Donation			£45.00
07-Sep-18	Donation			£100.00
07-Sep-18	Donation			£22.50
14-Sep-18	CDC			£6,250.00
14-Sep-18	Wren			£17,969.50
Bank Reconciliation			Statement dated	14 September 2018
			Savings Account	£16,100.63
			Current account	£12,517.55
Items not yet cleared:				
Receipts	None			
Payments	D McCullagh			£57.50
	Green scythe			£343.20
			Net Total	<u>£28,217.48</u>